

## **Biography of Mr. Jim Wells**

Currently, Mr. Wells is a Director in the Natural Resources and Environment Team at GAO. Mr. Wells joined GAO's Norfolk Regional Office in 1969 and worked in the GAO European Office in Frankfurt Germany covering military and international issues. Returning to GAO's Washington D.C. headquarters he worked extensively in environmental issues including radiation standards, natural resources forest service, land management issues, and agricultural issues involving farmers home loan programs.

Mr. Wells spent a year with the Kellogg Company in Battle Creek, Michigan as a participant in the White House President's Commission for Executive Exchange program. Mr. Wells in 1990 served as acting assistant regional manager in Chicago followed by an assignment with a subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee on Capital Hill. He performed in a staff role being assigned to the Assistant Comptroller General for Operations creating performance measurements and handling regional field operations issues. Mr. Wells served as an Associate Director in both Energy and Science and Housing and Community Development Issue Areas testifying many times on energy and housing issues. He was a Division Operations Director where he handled human capital issues for a large division and field office core group structure. Mr. Wells served as an Issue Area Director of the Energy, Science and Natural Resources Area before his current assignment.

Mr. Wells received a B.S. degree in business administration from Elon College and has completed executive development courses at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Penn State University. He has received numerous GAO awards, including Outstanding Achievement Awards, Meritorious Service Award and the Distinguished Service Award in 1998.